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Letter dated 17 September 2002 from the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Honduras addressed to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to request you to have the annexed note circulated, for information purposes, as a document of the Security Council. I should also like to inform you that the authorities of Honduras and El Salvador agreed yesterday to start the process of demarcation of the common boundary as defined in the decision of the International Court of Justice of September 1992. This has long been a wish of my Government, which it will spare no effort to materialize.

(*Signed*) Guillermo **Pérez-Cadalso Arias**
Minister for Foreign Affairs

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Annex to the letter dated 17 September 2002 from the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Honduras addressed to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your note of 3 April 2002 in which you refer to the offer formulated by Honduras in the note of 7 August 2000, proposing that our two States, as sole riparians of the Bahía de La Unión, in which the three-nautical-mile strips of the two States overlap, should commence the delimitation thereof in the fullest spirit of fraternity, by means of special representatives.

In your note you also state that your Government has expressed its agreement to the appointment of special representatives from both States in order to begin the negotiations for the delimitation of the overlapping waters of the two States in the strips over which El Salvador and Honduras have jurisdiction in the exclusively owned maritime coastal zones adjacent to the continental part and the islands.

My Government also wishes to assure you of its fraternal feelings towards your country and your Government in respect of any discussions that might result in new accords concerning the waters both inside and outside of the Bay of Fonseca, on the understanding that the decision of the International Court of Justice of 11 September 1992 incorporates and subsumes the 1917 decision of the Central American Court of Justice, the principles and norms of international law and the practice of riparian States of the Gulf.

If this basis is acceptable to you, I shall be pleased to communicate to you the names of the persons who will serve as special representatives of Honduras in the bilateral talks.

(*Signed*) Guillermo **Pérez-Cadalso Arias**
Minister for Foreign Affairs

María Eugenia **Brizuela de Avila**
Minister for Foreign Affairs
Republic of El Salvador